

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis. Applicants note that claims 4 and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, their subject matter which has now been placed into claims 1 or 11, respectively. Further, claims 5, 15, 16 and 17 have been revised to correct grammatical errors or antecedent bases. Therefore, these revisions are not related to the patentability of these or other claims.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A hybrid telecommunications switch apparatus comprising:
 - one or more circuit switch fabrics;
 - ~~one or more~~ a packet switch fabric ~~fabrics~~;
 - ~~a controller configured to~~ to ~~[[,]]~~ examine a SONET/SDH, C2 path overhead byte from one of ~~to determine which of~~ said circuit switch fabrics ~~or packet switch fabrics types to route traffic to~~; and
 - a controller configured to dynamically allocate circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic in order to route such traffic to the packet switch fabric ~~based on said examination~~; and to route telecommunications traffic to the ~~one of the said circuit or packet switch fabric fabrics based on said examination~~.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one of the circuit switch fabrics ~~fabrie~~ is a synchronous transport signal (STS) crossconnect.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the packet switch fabric is configured to switch internet protocol (IP) or asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) traffic.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of circuit switch fabrics.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to examine a path overhead byte associated with received traffic and to thereby determine whether the traffic is ATM IP, or STM traffic.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Currently Amended) A method of switching telecommunications traffic in a hybrid switch including [[a]] circuit switch fabrics ~~fabrie~~, a packet switch fabric, and a controller, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (A) provisioning one or more of the circuit switch fabrics ~~fabrie~~ for IP, ATM, and circuit switched traffic,
 - (B) examining a SONET/SDH, C2 path overhead byte by the packet

switch fabric to determine from one of said circuit switch fabrics ~~whether~~
~~received traffic is IP, ATM, or circuit traffic,~~

(C) dynamically allocating circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic
in order to route such traffic to the packet switch fabric ~~based on said~~
~~examination~~, and

(D) switching the received traffic to ~~to~~ ~~the packet or circuit switch~~
fabric ~~fabrics in response to the examination of step (B).~~

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended)) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 11 wherein
the step (D) of switching comprises the step of:

(D1) the controller directing ATM traffic to ~~[[a]]~~ the packet switch fabric.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 11 wherein the
step (D) of switching comprises the step of:

(D2) the controller directing IP traffic to ~~[[a]]~~ the packet switch fabric.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 11 wherein the
step (D) of switching comprises the step of:

(D3) the controller directing traffic that is neither ATM or IP traffic to a
~~[[the]]~~ circuit switch fabric.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) A hybrid telecommunications switch apparatus comprising:

one or more circuit switch fabrics;

one or more packet switch fabrics;

a controller configured to,

examine traffic overhead information to determine which of said switch fabric types circuit switch fabrics or packet switch fabrics to route the traffic to;

dynamically allocate circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic to route such traffic to a-the packet switch fabric based on said examination, and

to route telecommunications traffic to one or the other of the said circuit or packet switch fabrics based on said examination,

wherein the overhead information comprises a SONET/SDH path, C2 overhead byte.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the circuit switch fabric is a synchronous transport signal (STS) crossconnect.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the packet switch fabric is configured to switch internet protocol (IP) or asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) traffic.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a plurality of circuit switch fabrics.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the controller is further configured to examine the path overhead byte to determine whether the traffic is ATM, IP, or STM traffic.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method of switching telecommunications traffic in a hybrid switch including a circuit switch fabric, a packet switch fabric, and a controller, the method comprising the steps of:

provisioning the circuit switch fabric for IP, ATM. and circuit switched traffic,

examining a SONET/SDH path, C2 overhead byte to determine whether received traffic is IP, ATM, or circuit traffic,

dynamically allocating circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic to route such traffic to a packet switch fabric based on said examination, and

switching the received traffic in a packet or circuit switch fabric in response to the of examination step.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing ATM traffic to a packet switch fabric.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing IP traffic to a packet switch fabric.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing traffic that is neither ATM or IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Cancelled).